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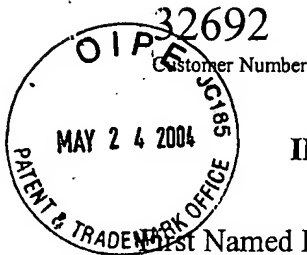
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Patent

Case No.: 58434US002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: MUYRES, DAWN V.

Application No.: 10/642919

Group Art Unit: 3712

Filed: August 18, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

Title: METHOD FOR SEALING THIN FILM TRANSISTORS

**PETITION FOR ACCORD OF A FILING DATE AND PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF
NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION**

Mail Stop Petitions
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

MAY 20 2004
Date

Hylis H. Froelke
Signed by: Hylis H. Froelke

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby petition for the accord of a filing date and for the withdrawal of the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application for the above-identified application. This petition is in response to the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application mailed on March 24, 2004. A copy of Part 2 of this Notice is enclosed.

The Notice states that Applicants' application was deposited without drawings, and therefore a filing date has not been accorded to the application. Applicants, however, submitted the drawing at issue with the application on August 18, 2003.

This petition is supported by (1) the enclosed copy of the transmittal letter indicating that 1 sheet of drawings was enclosed in the patent application and, (2) the enclosed copy of the stamped postcard receipt for the application at issue, also indicating 1 sheet of drawings. The postcard receipt establishes the prior receipt in the USPTO of the drawing at issue. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the enclosed duplicate drawing (1 sheet) be treated as part of the original application submission on August 18, 2003, that the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application be withdrawn, and that the application be accorded a filing date of August 18, 2003. A duplicate of the formal drawing submitted with the application on August 18, 2003 has also been sent to Mail Stop Missing Parts.

05/25/2004 EFL005 00000127 10642919

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05/25/2004 EFL005 00000127 10642919

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Applicants, in the alternative, hereby assert that a drawing is not necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented and is therefore not required under 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence) for a filing date.

Applicants' claims are directed to a method for sealing a thin film transistor (claims 1 – 17), a method of making a thin film transistor (claims 18 – 29), and a transistor (claim 30). Typically, when an application contains method claims, a drawing is not necessary for an understanding of the invention (see, for example, MPEP 601.01(f)). Such is the case with the present method claims. Each step of the methods of the invention is described in detail in Applicants' specification (see, in particular, the section titled "Fabrication" at page 11, line 3, through page 19, line 14; and the section in the Examples titled "Fabrication of Sealed Organic Thin Film Transistors (OTFTs)" at page 27, line 5, through page 29, line 17). A drawing therefore is not necessary for an understanding of the methods of the invention. 3

Drawings are also not usually considered necessary for the understanding of an invention where the invention resides in coating an article of known character (see, for example, MPEP 601.01(f)). Figure 1 depicts a sealed thin film transistor (Applicants' specification, page 4, lines 5 – 6). Thin film transistors are well known in the art. Configurations and the various layers of thin film transistors are also well known in the art, and are adequately described throughout the specification. Figure 1 is provided merely as an additional visual aid, and is not necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented by Applicant in claim 30. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application be withdrawn, and that the application be accorded a filing date of August 18, 2003.

Please charge the \$130 petition fee provided in 37 CFR 1.17(h), and if necessary, charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

May 20, 2004
Date

By: Lisa P. Fulton
Lisa P. Fulton, Reg. No.: 55,195
Telephone No.: (651) 733-1260

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833



Docket No.: 58434US002

Transmittal of Patent Application - Rule 1.53(b)

DUE DATE(S) _____

ATTORNEY
DOCKETED

LPE

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Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Inventor(s): Dawn V. MUYRES, Tommie W. KELLEY, Michael A. HAASE, Paul F. BAUDE, Steven D. THEISS

Title: METHOD FOR SEALING THIN FILM TRANSISTORS

1. ☒ Enclosed is the above-identified new patent application. It includes:
 37 Pages of Specification (including claims and abstract)
 30 Number of Claims
 1 Sheets of Drawings
2. ☐ This application claims priority to Provisional Application No. _____, filed _____.
3. ☒ Enclosed is an executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
4. ☒ Enclosed is an executed Assignment to 3M Innovative Properties Company and a completed Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet.
5. ☐ Enclosed is a Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) _____ (if foreign priority is claimed).
6. ☐ Other enclosures:
7. ☒ The fee for filing this application is computed as follows:

Claims as Filed				
(1) For	(2) Number Filed	(3) Number Extra	(4) Rate	(5) Basic Fee; \$750.00
Total claims	30	- 20 =	10	x \$18.00
Independent claims	3	- 3 =	0	x \$84.00
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims			\$280.00	\$0.00
Total Amount Due				\$930.00

8. ☒ Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17, which may be required to file and during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a). To the extent any such extension should become necessary, it is hereby requested. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.
9. ☒ Enclosed is a return receipt postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

AUGUST 18, 2003

Date

By:

Kent S. Kokko, Reg. No.: 33,931
Telephone No.: (651) 733-3597

POSTED

AUG 25 2003

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: (651) 736-3833

Filing of Papers and Fees by Express Mailing

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.10, this application and the documents and fees listed on this transmittal letter are being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit

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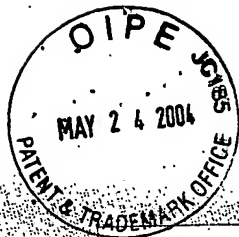
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220-114-44
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58434US002 LPF

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First Named Inventor: Dawn V. MUYRES

Case No.: 58434US002

Title: METHOD FOR SEALING THIN FILM
TRANSISTORS

Enclosures:

- ☒ Transmittal Letter
- ☒ 37 Pages of Specification (including Claims and Abstract)
- ☒ 30 No. of Claims
- ☒ 1 Sheets of Drawings
- ☒ Declaration/Power of Attorney
- ☒ Assignment with Recordation Form Cover Sheet
- ☐ Additional Documents:

Amount charged to Deposit Account: \$930/\$40

Attorney (initials): LPF/hhf

Date: AUGUST 18, 2003

Express Mail Label No.: EV 326637328 US

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03944 U.S. PTO

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